

REMARKS

Prior to this Amendment, Claims 37-50 were pending and under consideration. In this Amendment, Claim 1 is being amended. No claims are being cancelled or added. Thus, following entry of this Amendment, Claims 37-50 are pending and under consideration.

Applicant and the undersigned extend their appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesy shown to the undersigned in discussing the issues remaining in the application. Applicant also thanks the Examiner for the suggested amendment for advancing the prosecution of this case. A summary of the interview conducted on October 18, 2005 is submitted herewith.

I Amendments to the Claims

Pursuant to the discussion between the undersigned attorney representative and the Examiner, Claim 1 has been amended by deleting the term “functional.” The amendment is made based on the Examiner’s conclusion that deletion of the term eliminates any substantive rejections in the application. The amendment does not add new matter, and entry is therefore kindly requested.

II Rejections Under 35 USC §112, second paragraph: definiteness

Claims 37-50 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being allegedly indefinite. Based on discussions with the Examiner, the term “functional” has been deleted. The cells generated by the claimed method are mast cells and thus sufficiently definite under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III Rejections Under 35 USC §112, first paragraph: enablement

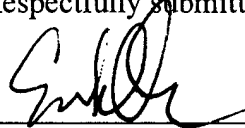
Claims 37-50 are rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph for being allegedly nonenabled. As discussed above, the term “functional” has been deleted. As noted by the Examiner, practice of the claimed methods results in generation of mast cells. Thus, the claims are sufficiently enabled under 35 USC §112, first paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

IV Conclusion

Applicant submits that the claims under examination satisfy all of the statutory requirements for patentability and are in condition for allowance. An early notification of the same is kindly solicited. If the Examiner believes that there are further unresolved issues, Applicant encourages the Examiner to contact the undersigned with any questions or concerns by telephone at 415.262.4504.

No fees are believed due with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees, including fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Dechert LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2778 (Order No. 375462-002US).

Respectfully submitted,



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